

BOARD OF OPTOMETRY  
INITIAL STATEMENT OF REASONS

Hearing Date: None scheduled

Subject Matter of Proposed Regulations: Licensure of an out of state licensed optometrist.

Section Affected: 16 CCR 1523 (h)

Specific Purpose:

This proposal would specify the application forms required for licensure by an out of state licensed optometrist.

Factual Rationale:

On September 18, 2006, Senate Bill 579 was signed into law which allows the Board of Optometry to issue a license to practice optometry to an out of state licensed optometrist who meets the requirements contained in the bill. One such requirement is that the person requesting licensure must do so on an application approved by the Board. This regulation would specify these application forms.

Underlying Data:

1. Board of Optometry Form OAL-2
2. Board of Optometry Form LBC-4

Business Impact:

There has been significant notification throughout the United States that the Board may issue a license to practice optometry in California to out of state licensed optometrists provided they meet certain specified requirements. The Board has received approximately 24 telephone inquiries regarding this pathway to licensure. Of those, it is estimated that approximately 10 may apply for California licensure this year. Therefore we do not anticipate a significant impact.

Specific Technologies or Equipment:

This regulation does not mandate the use of specific technologies or equipment.

Considerations of Alternatives:

No reasonable alternative to the regulation would be either more effective in carrying out the purpose for which the action is proposed or would be as effective or less burdensome to affected private persons than the proposed regulation.